Volume 3, Number 1
June 1994

Newsletter

From the President
MEET OUR NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR!

I couldn't be happier in introducing you to AARCH's first executive director — Steven Engelhart.

Steve's selection was the result of an extensive, five-month, national search, which included job announcements sent to every historic preservation graduate program in the country and an advertisement in the National Trust for Historic Preservation's *Preservation News*. By the May 1 deadline, we had received about 40 applications, many of them from highly qualified candidates, with advanced degrees, publications and/or years of experience in the field.

Steve Engelhart with son Sam

Yet, in the end, the most qualified of all was "our own" Steve Engelhart, a founding director of Adirondack Architectural Heritage. Steve has a masters degree in historic preservation from the University of Vermont, and for the past seven years has been the Director of Housing and Historic Preservation Programs for Friends of the North Country in Keeseville. He is a board member of the Preservation League of New York State; Chairman of the Keeseville Historic District Law Board of Appeals; author of a book on the historic bridges of the Ausable River, and a consultant in historic preservation. He is also a former board member and chairman of the Clinton County Planning Board; grant review panel member for the Architecture, Planning and Design Program of the New York State Council on the Arts, and a masonry contractor. In other words, Steve combines the

continued on page 3

THE ADIRONDACK PARK'S MOST ENDANGERED HISTORIC PLACES

With this issue AARCH announces a new program which goes directly to the heart of our mission: saving endangered historic properties. The program is designed to be an efficient and effective strategy for mobilizing energies to preserve historic places, yet not to overburden our fledgling organization by trying to do too much too soon. AARCH has seen itself since its inception as both a membership organization for individuals and an umbrella for local groups working for historic preservation of particular resources or areas. Believing that those who are closest to a resource are its best stewards, AARCH, both as a matter of policy and practicality, will first support local government and local advocacy groups before becoming involved directly. In addition, there are many endangered resources and many areas of the Park for which no other group except AARCH exists. Therefore, a new committee of AARCH has recently undertaken to keep a list of the Adirondack Park's most endangered historic places.

We consider a property endangered for the following reasons (in rough priority): the owner's expressed intention to demolish; vacancy for 2 years; for sale for 2 years; serious and prolonged lack of maintenance; obsolete use; undergoing a potentially problematic change in use or ownership, such as NYS acquisition; severe economic pressures; and elderly owner with no interested heir, especially in regard to camps.

When a property meets one or more criteria, we will consider the following factors: its condition, historic resource value, owner cooperation, land use/economic issues, and presence of a local advocacy group.

Properties in imminent danger, which need attention now, are:

- Hubbard Hall, Elizabethtown: scheduled for demolition
- Camp Santanoni, Newcomb: neglected
- Fire Towers, various: some scheduled for demolition
- Aiden Lair, Newcomb: vacant and for sale
- Dexter Lake Camp, Waverly: scheduled for demolition
- Camp Topridge, Brighton: vacant and for sale
- Garondah Lodge, Elizabethtown: vacant and for sale
- MacIntyre Mines Blast Furnace, Newcomb: neglected
- Saranac Laboratory, Saranac Lake: for sale
- Wenonah Lodge, Upper Saranac Lake: subdivided and for sale
- Camp Minnowbrook, Lake Placid: vacant and for sale
- All small towns with 19th century plans, i.e., clear edges, functioning centers, and walkable post offices.

Within the coming years we believe the Daniel Ames House, Ray Brook; Follensby Pond Lodge, Altamont; the Steamboat Tuscarora, Blue Mountain Lake; Whitney Park, Tupper Lake; and Debar Pond Lodge may face changes which will threaten these historic resources.

The following strategies, again in rough but not fixed order of priority, are available when an endangered property is identified, if appropriate in a given situation: Accumulate information, developing a file of information on each property. Inform the AARCH Board, which has broad contacts throughout the region. Inform the property owner. Complete a "blue form," an initial written assessment of the property's condition and historic significance for NYS OPRHP, if one has not been done. Support local advocacy groups: let them take the lead. Publicize the problem with an item or article in the AARCH Newsletter. Target AARCH summer tours to call attention to the property, if appropriate. Publicize with a general press release, again, if appropriate. Negotiate with the owners or other agents of change. Last, if all else fails, document the property before it is demolished.

We are pleased to report that the situation of the following has recently improved. Properties with new, caring owners include the Graves Mansion, Ausable Forks; White Pine Camp, Town of Brighton; American Legion Men's Infirmary, Tupper Lake; and Wellscroft Lodge, Town of Jay. Properties which have attracted advocacy groups include: North Creek Railroad Station, North Creek; St. William's on Long Point, Raquette Lake; Jay Covered Bridge, Town of Jay; Union Depot, Saranac Lake; and the Train Station Service Building, Willsboro, which has attracted the attention of the Willsboro Town government. AARCH has provided consultation or other support to the owners or advocates of at least six of these previously endangered properties.

Sadly, advocacy came too late for the State Theatre, Ticonderoga, and the Gabriels Schoolhouse, Town of Brighton, both of which fell this spring.

Because of the sensitive nature of some properties, we have not listed all those which have come to our attention. The committee has identified the following building types which we believe to be in danger Park-wide. We would appreciate readers notifying us of specific examples in all areas of the Park: "wooden boat" building and repair shops, schoolhouses, tourist cabins, boat liveries, taxidermist shops, churches, and county courthouses. We welcome your suggestions for these categories or any others you think are important.

Our New Executive Director

continued from page 1

academic background, administrative experience and practical field experience with an extensive knowledge of historic preservation in the Adirondack Park. And if all that weren't enough, Steve is personable, gentle, and effective in working with people from all walks of life.

Adirondack Architectural Heritage is truly fortunate to have Steve Engelhart to help lead us toward the next stages of growth as an organization and the fulfillment of our important mission in the Adirondack Park. I ask you, the members of AARCH, to give Steve your full support in the years ahead. I hope many of you will be able to meet Steve personally at the Annual Meeting at Camp Albedor on July 9 or at one of our other summer or fall programs.

Steve will continue to reside in Keeseville, in the northeast corner of the Adirondack Park, with his wife Karen and their two sons. His work for AARCH will see him traveling all over the park to meet with local officials, AARCH members, property owners, state agencies and other individuals and groups, as AARCH continues to expand its historic preservation work throughout the region.

I also want to take this occasion to thank and honor Mary Hotaling, who will now be retiring as AARCH's half-time program coordinator; although happily she will remain as editor of this newsletter. Since the founding of this organization, Mary has been instrumental in helping AARCH grow to its current level of membership and professionalism. We are pleased that she will remain an integral part of our organization.

As of July 1, the new, full-time director's office address will be:
Steven Engelhart, Executive Director
Adirondack Architectural Heritage
1759 Main Street, Keeseville, NY 12944
Phone: 518 834-9328
President Howard Kirschenbaum can be reached most directly through the Raquette Lake number: 315 354-5832.
Mary Hotaling and the newsletter will remain at 22 Catherine Street, Saranac Lake, NY 12983. Phone 518 891-2748.

News & Notes

ADIRONDACK RAILROAD: The state has not yet acted upon recommendations that the Citizens Advisory Committee made last fall. ANCA completed its feasibility study. They recommended seasonal tourist railroad operations in the Old Forge-Minnehaha-Big Moose area and in Lake Placid-Saranac Lake, as well as basic, minimal maintenance of the entire line so that rolling stock can be transported to and from the northern end.

ALBANY: Joan K. Davidson was confirmed by the Legislature as the new Commissioner for Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation on December 15, 1993. She has chosen Winthrop Aldrich as her new Deputy Commissioner for Historic Preservation, replacing Julia Stokes.

BLUE MT. LAKE: In the first new experiment for preserving and reusing those Adirondack fire towers owned by the state, the tower on Blue Mountain will be open to the public this summer. This will be accomplished under a cooperative arrangement between the Town of Indian Lake which will provide some funding, DEC which will supervise the rehabilitation and maintenance, and the Adirondack Museum which will handle the interpretation. Hopefully, this will be a model that other local governments and non-profit organizations can use in collaboration with the state to save and re-use other endangered fire towers around the Park.

GABRIELS: The Gabriels Schoolhouse has been demolished, a sad loss for the community and for all passers-by who treasured the sight of it.

LAKE GEORGE: The Lake View House, overlooking Lake George just south of Bolton Landing, is available this year as a summer guest house. Built in 1889, and in nearly original condition, the building has the charm that goes with a Victorian summer-only hotel, perhaps the only existing structure of its kind left on the lake. For mature individuals and couples seeking a relaxed environment. Call 518 677-3649.

LAKE GEORGE: Recreational divers can now visit some of the underwater remnants of a great British military fleet built during the French and Indian War, as well as a 1906 gasoline-powered wooden launch. New York State's Submerged Heritage Preserve is marked by mooring buoys near the east shore of the lake opposite Lake George village, and east of Diamond Island

near the middle of the lake. Novice divers or those without proper training and certification should not attempt these dives, and the wrecks must not be disturbed.

NEWCOMB: For the fourth consecutive summer, AARCH and the Town of Newcomb will be sponsoring an interpreter at Camp Santanoni. There may be funding for a second interpreter, so if you know someone who might be interested in having a terrific summer experience, please have them contact Howard Kirschenbaum at 315 354-4192. We also hope to be able to continue the actual restoration of the camp this summer. Again, interested volunteers should contact Howie at the same number.

PAUL SMITHS: After an unsuccessful year trying to sell Camp Topridge, Midlantic Bank of New Jersey lowered the asking price from $2.5 million to $2 million and now to $1.8 million. This is obviously a reasonable asking price for the largest and most lavish of Adirondack Great Camps. The problem is: what would an owner do with it all and how could one justify the hundreds of thousands of dollars each year in maintenance, taxes and insurance costs?

ELIZABETHTOWN: Essex County must vacate Hubbard Hall by June 6. Once used as a hospital, and later the home of North Country Community College, the building recently served as offices for the Essex County Arts Council; Essex County Mental Hygiene Association, Inc.; Literacy Volunteers of America; and the Northern NY Center for Conflict Resolution, Inc. The NYS Codes Division, called in because the county abolished its code enforcement position, certified the structure as unsafe. Demolition is planned.

ELIZABETHTOWN: The Essex County Historical Society received $2,000 to begin research and field work for a photographic exhibit of abandoned buildings, sites and structures in the county. The funds came from the Rural New York Preservation Grant Program, funded by The J.M. Kaplan Fund and administered by the Preservation League.

SARANAC LAKE: Historic Saranac Lake has published a new history of the village's tuberculosis treatment industry, titled Saranac Lake: Pioneer Health Resort. The author is Mark Caldwell, Professor of English at Fordham University and author of The Last Crusade: The War on Consumption. Liberally illustrated with 47 archival photographs, the 40-page softcover book costs $14.95 (+ tax for NYS delivery) by mail from HSL, PO Box 1030, Saranac Lake, NY 12983.

SARANAC LAKE: In late September 1993, the New York Landmarks Conservancy's Sacred Sites and Properties Fund awarded a matching grant of $5,000 to aid the congregation of the First United Methodist Church in repointing the stonework of its 1925-27 edifice. Historic Saranac Lake nominated the church to the NRHP as part of the Church Street Historic District, making it eligible for this funding, and provided technical assistance in the application process.

TICONDEROGA: The Fort Ticonderoga Association received $2,000 from the Rural New York Preservation Grant Program, funded by The J.M. Kaplan Fund and administered by the Preservation League. A historic landscape report will be prepared for the grounds surrounding an 1826 Greek Revival style residence that is part of the Fort Ticonderoga National Historic Landmark. These grants are awarded to not-for-profit groups and municipalites for historic structures reports, cultural resources surveys and historic landscape reports.

TICONDEROGA: Just as a groundswell of support for saving the State Theatre was developing, the building collapsed from the heavy loads of this winter's snow and accumulated neglect. The theatre had become the property of Essex County for non-payment of taxes. This same fate should not be allowed to befall other historic properties which may be off the tax rolls for non-payment of taxes.

Mary B. Hotaling

Hubbard Hall, Elizabethtown

AARCH Events

AARCH's tours, led by knowledgeable volunteer guides, are meant to be enjoyable learning experiences, as well as to raise funds to support our activities. Participants should wear comfortable walking shoes and dress for the variable weather conditions of the Adirondacks. Bring your own lunch and beverages unless otherwise noted. Attendance is limited on most tours. To register through June 30, send the full fee to AARCH, Box 159, Raquette Lake, NY 13436, or call 315-354-5832 for information, unless another address or phone number is given. Beginning July 1, please contact our new office: 1759 Main St., Keeseville, NY 12944, or call 518 834-9328.

Saturday, July 9
ANNUAL MEETING AND TOUR
Inlet. AARCH's Annual Meeting will be held at Camp Albedor, a beautiful Great Camp on Fourth Lake between Inlet and Eagle Bay. After the meeting, the group will tour Camp Albedor and then visit two other classic Adirondack camps on Fourth Lake - Camp Paonyc and the Stoller Camp. Arrive at Albedor at noon; bring your picnic lunch. The meeting and tour will begin at 12:30 and end around 4 PM. Our Annual Meeting and Tour is a benefit of AARCH membership; guest fee is $15. We value your participation. Please come!

Saturday, July 16
HISTORIC ESSEX
Led by AARCH Board Member David Hislop, the tour will begin at 10 AM at the 1867 Union School in the center of town on Rt. 22. A slide lecture on historic Essex will be followed by a walking tour including exteriors and interiors of great houses from the early 19th century, lunch at the scenic Old Dockhouse restaurant, the Stone Church, Essex Inn and other historic places. An unusual opportunity to experience the only town in the Adirondacks listed in its entirety on the National Register. Ending about 4 PM. Fee including lunch $30 ($20 AARCH members). Advance registration required.

Saturday, July 23
SAGAMORE LODGE - BEHIND THE SCENES
John Friauf, Jr., AARCH Board Member, Sagamore's Adirondack Program Director and licensed NYS guide, will host an unusual day at Camp Sagamore. Beginning at 10 AM and ending about 3 PM, participants will be ushered backstage for a unique view of how "Great Camps" in the woods worked to maintain the illusion of ease for owners and guests. Includes a 2.5 to 3 mile afternoon walk in the woods. Fee is $15 ($10 AARCH members). Advance registration required.

Saturday, July 30
HISTORIC KEENE VALLEY
Leaders: Tony Goodwin, Louise Gregg, et al. This first-time tour will include visits to the historic Ausable Club and the Keene Valley Country Club (confirmation pending), the hamlet's main street, and several private camps and cottages. Meet in the Keene Valley Country Club parking area at 10 AM. Tour ends about 3 PM. Fee is $20 (AARCH members $15). Advance registration required.

Saturday, August 6
PENFIELD HOMESTEAD
AARCH Board Member Ronald Ofner, President of Penfield Homestead Museum, co-sponsor of the tour, will lead this 10 AM - 2 PM tour of one of the most important historic and industrial sites in the Adirondacks, where many innovations in the iron ore industry were developed. The tour will include Allen Penfield's homestead (now a museum), other buildings associated with Ironville and the iron ore operation, and a walk to the original dam and mine site. An unusual behind-the-scenes tour of an important period and place in Adirondack history. Fee: $15 ($10 AARCH members). Advance registration required.

Sunday, August 7
CAMP SANTANONI
A walking tour guided by Robert Engel, former AARCH interpreter at Camp Santanoni and assistant curator at the Adirondack Museum. The round-trip walk is about 9.4 miles on a gently sloping dirt road. Meet at 10 AM at the parking lot of the Santanoni Preserve, off Route 28N in the hamlet of Newcomb, and return about 4 PM. Suggested optional donation $10 ($5 AARCH members). Advance registration required. A limited number of seats are available in a horse-drawn wagon, for an additional fee, by advance reservation only. Call for rates, 518-582-3211, 9-2 weekdays.

AARCH Events

Saturday, August 13
HISTORIC NORTH CREEK RAILROAD STATION AND MAIN STREET
A first-time tour led by Rosemary Pelkey and the co-sponsor North Creek Railway Depot Preservation Association board members. Tour includes the recently acquired railway depot, where Vice-President Theodore Roosevelt was informed of President McKinley's death, the impressive railroad turn-table and railway service buildings, a walk along the Hudson River and the proposed riverfront park, and a tour of North Creek's historic main street. The 1 PM to 3:30 PM tour will begin at the railway depot. Fee: $10 ($5 AARCH members). Advance registration required.

Wednesday, August 17
HISTORIC RAQUETTE LAKE
This all-day tour, led by AARCH President Howard Kirschenbaum, will feature visits to many historic spots in the hamlet and along the shores of the lake. Meet in front of the Raquette Lake Supply Company at 10 AM for a walking tour of "downtown" Raquette Lake, then take a short drive to The Antlers to see several buildings associated with one of Raquette Lake's major, early hotel complexes. From the Raquette Lake Girls Camp we will board a boat and spend the afternoon viewing the Great Camps and other historic buildings from the lake and debarking to visit a number of fine old camps and churches. Return about 4 PM. Co-sponsored with the Raquette Lake Foundation and Raquette Lake Library. Fee: $20 ($15 AARCH members). Advance registration required.

Sunday, August 21
RUSTIC CAMPS OF WILLIAM COULTER
AARCH's Mary Hotaling will lead a tour of three turn-of-the-century "Great Camps" on Upper Saranac Lake designed by prominent Adirondack architect W.L. Coulter: Eagle Island (Vice-Pres. Levi Morton), Moss Ledge (Isabel Ballantine) and Prospect Point (Adolph Lewisohn). A rare opportunity. Fee: $35 ($25 AARCH members) includes the boat ride to Eagle Island. 10 AM to 3 PM. Advance registration required.

Friday, August 26
NEWTON FALLS PAPER MILL AND HAMLET
Led by AARCH Board Member Barbara Parnass and ANCA President Henry Parnass, this will be the first-ever tour of one of the oldest and largest paper mills in the Adirondacks, in its centennial year, owned by the oldest corporation in the world (the Swedish Stora Kopperberg), and the hamlet which this mill fostered. The tour will encompass the operating mill including the dam, the penstock, the power building and railroad facilities. An inexpensive Dutch-treat lunch can be had at the town's early hotel, and afterward the tour will continue on to see company houses, an old store and theatre, log buildings for company functions, and the church/school. 10:30 AM to 2:30 PM. Fee: $20 ($15 AARCH members). For safety reasons, advance registration is required by Monday, August 22.

Wednesday, August 31
THREE GREAT CAMPS ON OSGOOD POND
AARCH President Howard Kirschenbaum will lead this first-ever tour of three impressive turn-of-the-century Great Camps near Paul Smiths: White Pine Camp, former Summer White House of President Calvin Coolidge, recently rehabilitated; Northbrook Lodge, former private estate, now an inn; and a third, beautiful camp which has been in the same family since it was built. 10:30 AM to 3:00 PM. Fee: $30 ($20 AARCH members). Advance registration required.

Saturday, September 17
HISTORIC SARANAC LAKE
Co-sponsored by Historic Saranac Lake and coordinated by HSL Board member Carol Burger, this walking and car-pool tour will include many of the buildings, historic districts and sites which made Saranac Lake America's "Pioneer Health Resort." The tour will begin at Trudeau Institute (end of Algonquin Avenue), and will then drive to the former Trudeau Sanatorium grounds and other historic districts. Dutch-treat lunch at the Hotel Saranac following the tour is optional. If you have just "driven through" Saranac Lake, you will find this special tour to be eye-opening and impressive. Registration 9:30 AM to around 2 PM. $15 ($10 AARCH & HSL members). Advance registration requested. Call 518-891-0971, 9 to 1 weekdays.

Saturday, September 24
CAMP SANTANONI
Led by AARCH President Howard Kirschenbaum. See August 7 for details.

Listings on the National Register of Historic Places of Properties within the Adirondack Blue Line

MOST ADIRONDACK COUNTIES

Adirondack State Forest Preserve[1,2]
New York Central Railroad Historic District[3]

CLINTON COUNTY

Dannemora
Church of St. Dismas, the Good Thief, Clinton Correctional Facility

Keeseville[4]
Double-Span Metal Pratt Truss Bridge
Keeseville Historic District
(See also Keeseville, Essex County)

Peru
Valcour Bay[1]

ESSEX COUNTY

Chesterfield
Elkanah Watson House, Port Kent[1]

Crown Point
Fort Crown Point[1,6]
Fort St. Frederic[1]
Ironville Historic District

Elizabethtown
Hand-Hale Historic District

Essex
Church of the Nazarene (Bouquet Chapel)
Essex County Home and Farm
Essex Village Historic District
Octagonal Schoolhouse

Keeseville[4]
Double-Span Metal Pratt Truss Bridge
Keeseville Historic District
Rembrandt Hall
Tomlinson House

Lake Placid
U.S. Post Office - Lake Placid[5]

Moriah
Witherbee Memorial Hall

Newcomb
Adirondack Iron & Steel Co.: Upper Works
Camp Santanoni[7]

North Elba
John Brown Farm[6]

Port Henry
Van Ornam & Murdock Block

Saranac Lake[8]
Cure Cottages (17) Thematic Resources
Highland Park Historic District
Will Rogers Memorial Hospital
(See also Saranac Lake, Franklin County)

Schroon
Samson Fried Estate (Birch Hill)

Ticonderoga[9]
Amherst Avenue Historic District
Black Watch Library
H.G. Burleigh House
Central School
Clark House
Community Building
Clayton H. Delano House
Ferris House
Fort Ticonderoga[1]
Gilligan and Stevens Block
Hancock House
Lake George Avenue Historic District
Liberty Monument
Silas B. Moore Gristmill
New York State Armory
The PAD Factory
St. Mary's Church and Rectory
State Theatre - DEMOLISHED 1994
Ticonderoga High School
Ticonderoga National Bank
Ticonderoga Pulp & Paper Co. office
U.S. Post Office - Ticonderoga[5]

Westport
First Congregational & Presbyterian Society Church of Westport

Willsboro
Abraham Aiken House
Adsit Log House
Edgewater Farm
Willsboro Congregational Church

FRANKLIN COUNTY

Brighton
Camp Topridge[7]
Camp Wild Air[7]
Paul Smith's Hotel Store - DEMOLISHED 1982

Duane
Duane Methodist Episcopal Church

Santa Clara
Eagle Island Camp[7]
Moss Ledge[7]
Prospect Point Camp[7]

Saranac Lake[8]
Berkeley Square Historic District
Church Street Historic District
Cottage Row Historic District
Cure Cottages (41) Thematic Resources
Paul Smith's Electric Light & Power & Railroad Co. Complex
(See also Saranac Lake, Essex County)

Tupper Lake
Beth Joseph Synagogue

FULTON COUNTY

Ephrata
Klock Site
Smith Pagerie Site

HAMILTON COUNTY

Indian Lake
Blue Mountain House Annex, Adirondack Museum
Church of the Transfiguration

Lake Pleasant
Hamilton County Courthouse Complex

Long Lake
Camp Pine Knot[7]
Camp Uncas[7]
Echo Camp[7]
Sagamore Lodge[7]
Whelan Camp

Wells
Wells Baptist Church

WARREN COUNTY

Bolton
Sagamore Hotel Complex

Chester
Chestertown Historic District

Hague
Grace Memorial Union Chapel
Silver Bay Association Complex

Johnsburg
North Creek Railroad Station Complex

Lake George (Town)
Royal C. Peabody Estate - Wikiosco
Wiawaka Bateau Site (archeology)

Lake George (Village)
Old Warren County Courthouse Complex
U.S. Post Office - Lake George[5]

Queensbury
Owl's Nest (Edward Eggleston Estate)[1]

Warrensburg
Merrill MaGee House
Warrensburg Mills Historic District

A. C. Hotaling

Gabriels School House, demolished 1994

— KEY —

1. *National Historic Landmark, specially designated as a nationally important historic property*
2. *Adirondack State Forest Preserve, in Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Fulton, Hamilton, Herkimer, St. Lawrence & Warren Counties*
3. *New York Central Railroad Adirondack Division Historic District, extending through portions of Essex, Franklin, Hamilton, Herkimer, Oneida & St. Lawrence Counties*
4. *Keeseville Village Multiple Property Submission*
5. *United States Post Office Multiple Property Submission*
6. *New York State owned and operated Historic Site*
7. *Great Camps of the Adirondacks Multiple Property Submission*
8. *Saranac Lake Multiple Property Submission*
9. *Ticonderoga Multiple Property Submission*

Notes on the Adirondack List

The principal source of this list is *The National Register of Historic Places in New York State*, a new book compiled for the Preservation League of New York State by Peter D. Shaver. It is inclusive through 1992. We have added the New York Central Railroad Historic District, a new listing, and wish to note also at least two Adirondack nominations which are pending in the state office: Trudeau Sanatorium near Saranac Lake and Westport Village.

A few definitions are in order. A historic district is "an area with contiguous properties of historical or esthetic significance." "Multiple Property Submission" is a new title which incorporates both former Multiple Resource Areas and former Thematic Resource nominations. All three titles encompass multiple properties which have historical or esthetic significance in common, but which are not all contiguous.

At first sight, my reaction to the listings is mixed. I am surprised both at the number of National Historic Landmarks within the Adirondack Park, a designation of special national importance, and the fact that I have never seen any of them publicized as such. From the numbers of nominations in certain communities, it is obvious that those places with "Rural Preservation Companies" (local organizations which received certain funds from the NYS Division of Housing and Community Renewal) have accomplished most of the listings in the Park and the most complex listings — Multiple Property Submissions. The south and west parts of the Park are vastly underrepresented. Herkimer, Oneida and St. Lawrence Counties have no listings except the Forest Preserve and the Adirondack Railroad. Lewis and Washington Counties have no listed properties at all within the Blue Line. Surely every town has at least one building of importance that should be listed.

It is also clear that it has been productive to treat at least the Park — and in some cases, the state — as a whole, and to develop nominations of noncontiguous properties as the Preservation League did with its Great Camps of the Adirondacks, and Historic Saranac Lake did with its Cure Cottages. To these, more great camps or more cure cottages could be added. There is also a statewide submission of United States Post Offices, including several in the Adirondacks. Other Park-wide thematic nominations could be developed: wooden-boat building and repair shops, schoolhouses, tourist cabins, boat liveries, taxidermist shops, churches, county courthouses, "good" (but not Great) camps, golf courses, ski facilities,etc. To do this, local sponsoring groups with real staying power are needed. Through its Local Heritage Project, AARCH stands ready to advise and support such local groups.

MBH

Join AARCH

I want to help preserve the Adirondack Park's historical and architectural legacy. Enclosed is my tax-deductible membership contribution.

(Check one)

____ $15 Individual

____ $25 Family

____ $50 Supporting or Business

____ $100 Sponsor

____ $_____ Other

NAME:

_____

ADDRESS:

_____

CITY:

_____

STATE/ZIP:

_____

Please make checks payable to "Adirondack Architectural Heritage" and mail to: AARCH, c/o Hotaling, 22 Catherine Street, Saranac Lake, NY 12983.

Preservation Technology

with Carl Stearns, A.I.A.

Even buildings which are historically and/or architecturally important are occasionally lost due to deterioration, lack of use, devastating fire and/or development pressures. If such a building is listed on the State or National Registers of Historic Places, the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) should be consulted by project sponsors or by anyone or any group which has a stake in its preservation. Depending upon whether a project which may have an effect upon the historic resource (with a range running from full restoration to demolition) is funded by State or Federal sources, and/or would have an impact on the resource under SEQR (State Environmental Quality Review Act), a review procedure may be required by the SHPO. Even if the resource or building in question is not listed on the registers, anyone interested in seeing it preserved or at least given a preservation review by the State can request a determination of eligibility. If the SHPO does find the resource to be worthy of such recognition, the same protective and procedural measures which are provided for a listed building or resource are provided.

The procedure basically mandates the exploration of options for reuse and rehabilitation. In extreme cases where there is neither local interest in, nor program of use for the resource, a marketing and advertising campaign may be mandated, or a set of guidelines for recording the building may be promulgated. The recording of a building which will be relocated (as a last resort), or dismantled for reconstruction, or demolished in the usual sense, can take three forms: photographic, graphic (scale drawings) and written narrative. Each case is apt to be distinct, and for the National Register listed or eligible buildings which are threatened, the SHPO contacts the National Park Service's Cultural Resource Planning Branch for specific requirements for recording standards. If the resource in question is a building, Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) standards will be used. If it is an industrial or engineered artifact, the Historic American Engineering Record (HAER) standards are appropriate.

In a recent preservation case in the Paul Smiths/Gabriels area, the Gabriels School House, under private ownership, became threatened by long term deterioration and recent dismantling for architectural salvage. The Town of Brighton had formulated a quite creative plan for relocating and using the historic building for Town offices and community arts functions, and an eligibility for National Register listing was provided by the New York State SHPO. Due to the fact that the building site was (and is) under private ownership, though, and no public funding was involved in the intervention/dismantling, there was no mandate for recording. Only voluntary photographic coverage was possible due to a rapid sequence of events, and the intriguing Colonial Revival "landmark" in the open fields of Gabriels is now a memory of the past.

Adirondack Architectural Heritage

BOX 159
RAQUETTE LAKE, NY 13436
315-354-5832

BOARD OF DIRECTORS*

George Canon
Town of Newcomb

Jacqueline Day
Adirondack Museum

Steven Engelhart
Friends of Keeseville

John Friauf, Jr.
Sagamore Institute

James Glavin
Cranberry Lake

Robert Hammerslag
Essex Community Heritage Organization

David Hislop, Jr.
Rochester & Essex

William Johnston
Essex County Planning Office

Howard Kirschenbaum
Raquette Lake

Edmund Lynch
Adirondack Park Visitors Centers

Ronald Ofner
Essex County Tourism

Jean Olson
Town of Horicon

Barbara Parnass
Historic Saranac Lake

Margaret Prime
Queensbury & Lake Placid

Carl Stearns
Architect

ADVISORY COUNCIL*

Paul Malo
Architectural Historian

Sue Rathbun
PRIDE of Ticonderoga

Barry Silverstein
Adirondack Life

*affiliation for purposes of identification only

Mary B. Hotaling
Program Coordinator

AARCH Newsletter
c/o Mary Hotaling,
22 Catherine St., Saranac Lake, NY 12983
518-891-2748